

## CHAPTER 16

### MEDICAL TREATMENT OF LYME OR OTHER TICK-BORNE DISEASE

H.F. 577

**AN ACT** relating to exemptions from disciplinary action for persons licensed to practice health-related professions based on their treatment of Lyme disease or other tick-borne diseases, and including effective date provisions.

*Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

**Section 1. NEW SECTION. 147.56 Lyme disease treatment — exemption from discipline.**

A person licensed by a board under this subtitle shall not be subject to discipline under [this chapter](#) or the board's enabling statute based solely on the licensee's recommendation or provision of a treatment method for Lyme disease or other tick-borne disease if the recommendation or provision of such treatment meets all the following criteria:

1. The treatment is provided after an examination is performed and informed consent is received from the patient.
2. The licensee identifies a medical reason for recommending or providing the treatment.
3. The treatment is provided after the licensee informs the patient about other recognized treatment options and describes to the patient the licensee's education, experience, and credentials regarding the treatment of Lyme disease or other tick-borne disease.
4. The licensee uses the licensee's own medical judgment based on a thorough review of all available clinical information and Lyme disease or other tick-borne disease literature to determine the best course of treatment for the individual patient.
5. The treatment will not, in the opinion of the licensee, result in the direct and proximate death of or serious bodily injury to the patient.

Sec. 2. **EFFECTIVE UPON ENACTMENT.** This Act, being deemed of immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

Approved March 23, 2017